

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): If the merchant finds that the rates charged by the Railway Company, is very high and that it may be reduced, he must first address the Railway Company. In such cases it is also possible that the company may, on their own account, reduce the rates.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): Will the Government ask the company to make reduction on their own account?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government do not consider it necessary.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): What is the opinion of the company, whether they are prepared to make any reduction?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. M. N. NAIR (*Kottayam I*): May I know whether the Chamber of Commerce was informed of the reply received by the Government from the South Indian Railway?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

Railway freight on cocoanuts.

135. ***MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Karunagapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state what steps they have taken for reducing railway freights on cocoanuts and coconut products?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government addressed the authorities of the G. I. P. and B. B. & C. I. Railways through the Trade Agent. But these Railway Companies did not consider it possible at present to make any change in the present rates. Negotiations with the S. I. R. Company with a view to the reduction of the rates are being continued.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know why Government thought it necessary to seek the mediation of the Trade Agent when they wanted to correspond with the Railway Companies of North India and why did they themselves correspond directly as with the South Indian Railway?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): The Trade Agent was at the time in Bombay and he has got more convenience to make the necessary enquiries.

PRESIDENT: You mean the headquarters of these Railway Companies; where are they?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): At Bombay.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Had the Government instructed the Trade Agent in finding out suitable markets for the Travancore products?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know the names of markets found out on behalf of Travancore Government for the Travancore products?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): When did Government instruct the Trade Agent to find out suitable markets for these products?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): They have given instructions almost from the very beginning of his appointment.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Then how long did he take to find a market if he has found out one? Have the Government called for the explanation when they have found that he was unsuccessful?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government have not called for any explanation.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Why did Government keep silent over the matter?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): A reference has been made to the Trade Agent and the reply is not received.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know how many references of this kind made by the Government are pending with the Trade Agent unanswered by that officer?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Of which kind, please?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): Sir, a question was asked by Mr. E. V. Krishna Pillai. That question, so far as I am able to understand, is asked for a definite answer being given. I think that the answer given by the Government, is not definite May I submit Sir, that the answers here may be more definitely given?

PRESIDENT: The order is very definite.

The time has expired for asking supplementary questions. We shall enter into the proceedings of the day.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Sir, may I submit for the consideration of the Chair that the usual procedure here is to answer the remaining questions on the succeeding day? As this is the last day of the meeting the House will stand adjourned *sine die* and all the business that outstands today has to be taken up next day. So if you have to follow the precedent the remaining questions have to be taken on the next day.

PRESIDENT: You mean in the next session?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): No, Sir: what I am submitting is that these supplementary questions have to be asked on the next day.

PRESIDENT: I will consider that point later on.

Recruitment to Public Service.

136. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the Government order or confidential circular sent round to the officers of all departments in the State prescribing the mode and percentage of the appointments to be made in the Public Service under communal basis?